PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners May 16, 2005 1101 Oberlin Road Raleigh, NC 27605

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Leonard W. Jones, CPA, President; Arthur M. Winstead, Jr., CPA, Vice President; Jordan C. Harris, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer; Norwood G. Clark, Jr., CPA (via telephone conference call); Tyrone Y. Cox, CPA; Thurman L. Gause; and Michael C. Jordan, CPA.

STAFF ATTENDING: Robert N. Brooks, Executive Director; J. Michael Barham, CPA, Deputy Director; Ann J. Hinkle, Manager-Professional Standards; Buck Winslow, Manager-Licensing; Jodi Nelson, Assistant-Licensing; and Noel L. Allen, Legal Counsel.

GUESTS: Sharon Bryson, Deputy Director, NCACPA; and Tom Chenoweth, CPA, Highland Publishing Company.

CALL TO ORDER: President Jones called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 20, 2005, meeting were approved as submitted.

FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY ITEMS: The financial statements for April 2005 were accepted as submitted.

LEGISLATIVE AND RULE-MAKING ITEMS: The Board reviewed Senate Bill 622, Section 6.1(e) as it relates to occupational licensing boards. Board staff will follow this legislation and will work for removal of this section from the Bill.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ITEMS: Messrs. Jordan and Winstead moved to send a letter to NASBA in support of Ellis Dunkum, CPA (Virginia), for NASBA Director-at-Large. Motion passed.

Messrs. Harris and Winstead moved to send a letter to NASBA in support of Charles Talbert, CPA (South Carolina), for NASBA Mid-Atlantic Regional Director. Motion passed.

Messrs. Harris and Gause moved to recommend that the NASBA/AICPA International Qualifications Appraisal Board (IQAB) review the application of the Hong Kong Institute of CPAs for mutual recognition. Motion passed.

The Board reviewed the April 26, 2005, letter from the NASBA CPA Examination Review Board (ERB) which stated that the ERB will no longer issue the "comfort letter" on a quarterly

basis because of a change in the scoring process. The ERB will continue to provide its Annual Report to the member boards.

The Board reviewed the May 10, 2005, CPA Examination Alert from NASBA.

The Board reviewed and approved responses to the AICPA's March 18, 2005, Exposure Draft, the AICPA's March 30, 2005, Exposure Draft, and the PCAOB's March 31, 2005, Exposure Draft.

STATE AND LOCAL ORGANIZATION ITEMS: The Board reviewed the Report of the Oversight Visit to the NCACPA to review the administration of the AICPA Peer Review Program.

REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Mr. Winstead moved and the Board approved the following recommendations of the Committee:

<u>200310-046 - Stephen Howard Gibson</u> - Approve the signed supplemental Consent Order (Appendix I).

<u>200405-021 – Randall Davis Blackburn</u> - Approve the signed Consent Order (Appendix II). <u>200405-021</u> – Approve the Notice of Hearing for August 22, 2005, at 10:00 a.m.

REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE: Mr. Gause moved and the Board approved the following recommendations of the Committee:

Transfer of Grades Applications - The following were approved:

Jeffrey Brian King Sarah Anne Sealey

Original Certificate Applications - The following were approved:

Pamela Ward Anderson Amy Catherine Bonnette Allison Best Briley William Sherrod Brown III Brian M. Fields Chadd Scott Fisher Jason W. Grooters David Reece Helms Pamela Price Helton Jared Reid Horton Hana Hunter Cory Val Johnson Karen Annette Keller
Jeffrey Brian King
Greta Ginn Meads
Julie Heather Meister
Kristy Lynn Michue
Christopher Andrew Moore
Brian David Nordby
Seldon Elijah Patty
Kelly Ann Pedersen
Jared L. Piland
Caroline Watkins Powell
Kimberly Jessup Ripberger

John Calvin Roland Sarah Anne Sealey Kelly A. Senogles Catherine M. Sharpe Patrick Haines Simmons

Xiaojun Song Damuel J. Stewart Jennifer Kay Wagstaff William Bryan Warren

The Committee reviewed the original application submitted by Diana Michele Miller. Ms. Miller wanted to use Professional Development for Engineers towards the ethics requirement in the fields of study. The Committee disapproved her request because ethics was not the primary focus of the course and the ethics contained in the course were geared toward engineers and not to the business environment.

Reciprocal Certificate Applications - The application submitted by Jason Gene Sullivan was approved.

Temporary Permits - The following temporary permits were approved by the Executive Director and ratified by the Board:

Shannon Patricia Bogan T03243 Leigh Ann Johnson T03244 Lisa Ann Madden T03245 Camillo T. Tramontana T03246 Mindy L. Zimmerman T03247 Jesse James Bachman T03248 Douglas Albert Haddock T03249 Danica Lynn Little T03250 Richard Anthony Schreiber T03251

Reinstatements - The reinstatement application submitted by Kevin Carl Odiorne (#25998) was approved.

Reissuance of New Certificate - Applications for reissuance of new certificates and consent agreements submitted by the following individuals were approved.

Michael Lawrence Mospan #11651 Angelica Willeford #28619

Firm Registrations - The following professional corporations, professional limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships were approved by the Executive Director and ratified by the Board:

Patrick A. Beach, CPA, PC Ehrhardt, Keefe, Steiner & Hottman, P.C. GREENE, FINNEY & HORTON LLP Kevin T. Howard, CPA/PFS, P.A. OWEN W. PIRKLE, CPA, PA G.A. Record, PLLC **Reclassifications -** The Committee approved the following requests for retired status because the individuals are completely retired and do not receive any earned compensation for current personal services in any job whatsoever:

William N. Gantt #2213 Virginia Haworth Lindquist #21338 Lori Adams Ozaki #26485

CPE Sponsors

Staff recommended removing Holden Moss Knott Clark Copley & Hoyle PA from the CPE sponsor register for continued failure to comply with 21 NCAC 8G .0403(d)(3) and failure to meet the 30-day notice requirement. The Committee approved staff recommendation.

The Committee reviewed a request from the UNC School of Government to reinstate its sponsor registration. The registration was reinstated with one-year probation.

Extension Requests - The Committee approved Fred Shackelford (#8196) for extension for completion of CPE until June 30, 2005.

Examinations - The Committee reviewed and approved the following staff-approved applicants to sit for the Uniform CPA Examination:

Angela Marie Allen Jason Corneilus Anderson William Jeffrey Assell Jr Matthew Justin Barnette Melanie Tate Bergey Elizabeth Tyler Berry Summer Leigh Biles Garrett Dwight Bolden Paulina D. Bolton Sally Joelene Boseman Elizabeth Prunka Breen Leigh Michaux Bullin Misty Dawn Buonsignore Dana Jeanette Call Kimberly Renee Carland Robbie Brett Chapman Xu Chen Matthew Taylor Clark Victoria Elizabeth Coble Brett Alan Cohen

Latrice Catherine Smith Collins Rachel Cecilia Cone Greg Michael Cooley **Brooke Windsor Cox** Avaleen Keisha Crawford Brian Michael Crossland Stacy Lee Darnall Dipak P. Dave Sunita Jagdish Dave Rebecca Anne Davidson Laura Hope Demski Chad Cameron Dickens Megan Kathleen Dix Juliana Therese Driessen Dakota James Dunne Chad Richard Edwards Joshua Martin Ellis Jamie Lynn Engel Edward William Falco Evelyn Wells Fisher

Amy Lynn Ford Mark Alexander Gabriel John Randolph Gard Amy Lynn Glover Shawn Mitchell Graham Robert Andrew Hale Cori Ann Hansen Cheryl Ann Harrigan Dana Marie Harrington Melissa Moring Harris Susan King Harris Zhihong He Leslie Michelle Hedrick Jennifer Lynn Hicks Deborah Michele Holcomb Keith Eric Howard Katarina Maria Hyden Juna Rachel John Lindsay Anne Kellam Mi Joo Kim Allen Roy Landel II Sheila Hunter Langston Danna Jane Layne Whitney Morrell Lee Kathleen Dianne Leopard Timothy Michael Ligay Jessica May Lucas Richard Glenn Mace Lynn Eisenman Mandell Heather Marie Marron Morgan Anne Masten Brian May Erin Renee McCorkle Ellen C. McNally David Lee McPherson Lauren Brooke McSwain Jennifer Lyn Meeks Julie Marie Messenger Justin Derrington Miller Kelley Elaine Miltier Sarah Melissa Minton Amber Renae Monahan Lisa Dawn Moore

Julie Elizabeth Morgan Michael Christian Murray Malini Natarajan Leah Beth Payne Noel Audrea Russo Norris David Michael O'Brien Parker Douglas O'Daniel Alisha Kelsey O'Reilly Jennifer Michelle Onesko Angela Marie Pate Deepa Indravadan Patel **David Lacy Patterson** Shalinee Prasada Ashley Maureen Prendergast Jennifer Robinson Queen Gwendolyn McMillian Reilly Samantha Rae Reynolds Robynn R. Rutledge **Eugene Courtney Saunders** Faye Louise Shisslak Kaysie Michelle Silver Jonathan Blake Smith Lauren Marie Spegal Leigh Batten Spencer Steven Michael Stamper **Justin Alan Stiles** Laurie Lynn Strumski Matthew R. Stuart Christopher James Surratt Michael Edward Szarpa John Edward Tillman Barbara Delaconcepcion Tinney Jared Michael Titzer Kristen Elisabeth Tofil Suzanne Marie Toruk James Shawn Trogdon Gbolade Olatunde Tubi Gregory Huston Turlington Stuart Tyler Wall Elmer Glenn Wessel Ir Susan Smith Whitfield Cormekki B. Whitley Benjamin Mims Whitlock

Keith Edward Williams Kimberly Leigh Williams Carole Emily Wilson Matthew Ryan Wood Yen Chun Wu Caixuan Xu Michal Ellen Yarborough Wei Zhang

PUBLIC HEARING: President Jones moved to convene the Public Hearing scheduled to hear Case No. 200411-049, L. Douglas Johnson's request for modification of disciplinary action taken in Case No. 9904-044. Mr. Johnson was sworn in and presented testimony along with evidence provided by his attorney, Michael Weddington. Messrs. Jordan and Cox moved to enter Closed Session with Legal Counsel and without Staff to consider the matter. The Board re-entered Public Hearing and Messrs. Winstead and Harris moved to approve a Board Order denying Mr. Johnson's request for modification of disciplinary action. Motion passed with six (6) affirmative and one (1) negative vote. The entire Public Hearing is a matter of Public Record (Appendix III).

EXECUTIVE STAFF AND LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: The Board reviewed and approved the request by Staff to set up a computer for students and exam candidates to use at the Board office to take the Uniform CPA Examination sample test.

ADJOURNMENT: Messrs. Harris and Cox moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Attested to by:

Robert N. Brooks

Executive Director

Leonard W. Jones, CPA

- 10. Applicant's felony conviction was a violation of NCGS 93-12 (9) and 21 NCAC 8N .0203.
- 11. Pursuant to a Consent Order, the Certified Public Accountant certificate issued to Applicant was permanently revoked effective October 18, 1999.
- 12. In support of his request for modification of discipline, Applicant has provided supporting recommendations from three (3) certified public accountants and a letter describing Applicant's rehabilitation efforts.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Hearing was duly noticed pursuant to NCGS 150B-38 (b)(c) and 21 NCAC 8C.0103 and conducted with a quorum of Board members and all necessary parties present.
- 2. Since the discipline in this case was determined by consent to permanent revocation, pursuant to 21 NCAC 8I .0104, the burden of establishing a justification for modifying the earlier discipline is upon the applicant.
- 3. Applicant has not presented persuasive evidence that he has been completely rehabilitated and that he has support of the aggrieved parties and the community.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, the Board orders in a vote of 6 to 1 that:

1. Lawton Douglas Johnson's application for modification of discipline is denied.

This the 16th day of May 2005

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS

BOARD SEAL

NORTH CAROLINA WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS CASE #: 200411-049

IN THE MATTER OF: Lawton Douglas Johnson, #14238 Applicant

BOARD ORDER

THIS CAUSE coming before the Board at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, at public hearing, with a quorum present, the Board finds, based on the evidence presented at the hearing on May 16, 2005, that:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The parties have been properly identified.
- 2. The Board has jurisdiction over Applicant and this matter.
- 3. Applicant received at least fifteen (15) days written Notice of Hearing of this Matter by personal service, certified mail, or other approved personal delivery; or otherwise has no objection to the Notice of Hearing.
- 4. Venue is proper and the Noticed Hearing was properly held at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina.
- 5. Applicant had no objection to any Board Member's participation in the Hearing of this Matter.
- 6. Applicant was present at the Hearing and was represented by counsel.
- 7. Applicant was the holder of a certificate as a Certified Public Accountant in North Carolina and is therefore subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) and Title 21, Chapter 8 of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC), including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
- 8. The matter is before the Board upon application by Applicant for modification of discipline pursuant to 21 NCAC 8I .0104.
- 9. In March of 1999, Applicant pleaded guilty, pursuant to a plea arrangement, to one (1) felony.

2. Respondent's actions as set out above constitute violations of NCGS 93-12 (9) e and 21 NCAC 8N .0201, .0202 (a), .0203 (b)(1), .0204 (c), and .0207.

BASED on the foregoing and in lieu of further proceedings under 21 NCAC Chapter 8C, the Board and Respondent agree to the following Order:

1. The Certified Public Accountant certificate issued to Respondent, Randall Davis Blackburn, is hereby permanently revoked.

CONSENTED TO THIS THE 25 DAY OF A pri 2005.

Respondent

APPROVED BY THE BOARD THIS THE 16th DAY OF 2005.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS

BOARD SEAL

NORTH CAROLINA WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS CASE #: 200405-021

IN THE MATTER OF: Randall Davis Blackburn, #12480 Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

THIS CAUSE, coming before the Board at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to NCGS 150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate the following Findings:

- 1. Respondent is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 12480 as a Certified Public Accountant.
- 2. Respondent failed to timely file his individual federal and state tax returns for 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002. No additional tax was owed on the unfiled returns.
- 3. In January of 2004, pursuant to a plea agreement, Respondent entered a guilty plea to one (1) count of willfully failing to file his North Carolina individual income tax return for 2000. Respondent was thereupon convicted and sentenced to forty (40) days in custody, which sentence was suspended, and he was placed on twelve (12) months of supervised probation. In addition, Respondent was required to pay a three hundred dollar (\$300.00) fine, to file his 2000 and 2001 state tax returns by February 27, 2004, to file his 2002 state tax return within thirty (30) days, and to pay the costs of court.
- 4. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Order with the Board *ex parte*, whether or not the Board accepts this Order as written.

BASED upon the foregoing, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

1. Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) and Title 21, Chapter 8 of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC), including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.

2. Respondent's actions as set out above constitute violations of NCGS 93-12 (9)e and 21 NCAC 8N .0201, .0202 (a), and .0203 (b)(1).

BASED on the foregoing and in lieu of further proceedings under 21 NCAC Chapter 8C, the Board and Respondent agree to the following Order:

- 1. If Respondent is again convicted, pleads guilty, pleads *nolo contendere*, or seeks a Prayer for Judgment Continued for any motor vehicle violations other than the September 15, 2004 charge, Respondent's CPA certificate shall be suspended for at least three (3) years.
- 2. If, pursuant to Paragraph 1 above, Respondent's certificate is suspended, after three (3) years from the date that Respondent's certificate is suspended, Respondent may apply to return his certificate to active status upon a showing that he has had no further motor vehicle violations or crimes and by submission and approval of a reinstatement application which includes the following:
 - a. Application form,
 - b. Payment of the application fee,
 - c. 3 moral character affidavits, and
 - d. 40 hours of CPE in 12 months preceding the application including an 8 hour accountancy law course as offered by the North Carolina Association of CPAs in a group study format.

CONSENTED TO THIS THE 29 DAY OF 2005.

Respondent

APPROVED BY THE BOARD THIS THE 16th DAY OF May 2005.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS

BOARD SEAL

NORTH CAROLINA WAKE COUNTY

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS CASE #: 200310-046

IN THE MATTER OF: Stephen Howard Gibson, #10406 Respondent

SUPPLEMENTAL CONSENT ORDER

THIS CAUSE, coming before the Board at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to NCGS 150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate the following Findings:

- 1. Respondent is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 10406 as a Certified Public Accountant.
- On June 22, 2004, the Board approved a Consent Order signed by Respondent which disciplined Respondent for repeated failures to disclose on his certificate renewals the convictions and suspensions of his driving privileges for driving while impaired.
- 3. On September 15, 2004, Respondent was charged with driving with a revoked license and operating a vehicle with a fictitious registration plate.
- 4. While Respondent has represented in his communications with the Board that he is making progress in his rehabilitation efforts for alcohol abuse, Respondent has allegedly continued to violate applicable traffic law by driving with a revoked license and operating a vehicle with a fictitious registration plate.
- 5. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Order with the Board *ex parte*, whether or not the Board accepts this Order as written.
 - BASED upon the foregoing, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:
- 1. Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) and Title 21, Chapter 8 of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC), including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.